

2 but the reference was incorrect. SEQ ID NO: 2 is *N*-terminally truncated galectin-3 that is corresponding to SEQ ID NO: 1 but with a cysteine added to the *N*-terminus to enable thiol-specific derivatization. Claim 6 is currently amended to correctly refer to SEQ ID NO: 3 that is the sequence of the intact recombinant human galectin-3 protein containing both Tyr-63 and Asp-241. As described exactly in the Specification and Claims 1, 2 and (amended) Claim 6, *N*-terminally truncated galectin-3 can be produced that possesses activity as a treatment for disease. The desired *N*-terminally truncated recombinant human galectin-3 molecules that include SEQ ID NO: 1 are composed of a specific subset of the amino acid residues comprising SEQ ID NO: 3 that is described in the Specification and that is defined in Claim 6.

AMENDED VERSION

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. (original) A composition comprising an effective amount of *N*-terminally truncated galectin-3 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
2. (original) The composition according to claim 1, wherein said *N*-terminally truncated galectin-3 has a sequence according to SEQ ID No: 1 and analogues thereof.
3. (original) The composition according to claim 1, wherein said *N*-terminally truncated galectin-3 is present in an amount sufficient to reduce tumor size.
4. (currently amended) The composition according to claim 1 for use in treating rheumatoid arthritis, juvenile idiopathic arthritis, atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease, and cancer.
5. (original) The composition according to claim 1, wherein said *N*-terminally truncated galectin-3 has a sequence as set forth in SEQ ID No: 2 and analogues and homologues thereof.
6. (currently amended) The composition according to claim ~~5~~ 1, wherein said analogues and homologues include at least one set of polypeptides that include amino

acid sequences of SEQ ID NO: 23 beginning with an amino acid residue from Tyr-63 through Arg-129 and extending at least to an amino acid residue from Asp-241 through Ile-250.

7. (original) The composition according to claim 1, wherein said composition is formulated for slow release.

8. (withdrawn)

9. (withdrawn)

10. (withdrawn)

11. (withdrawn)

12. (withdrawn)

13. (withdrawn)

14. (withdrawn)

15. (withdrawn)

16. (withdrawn)

17. (withdrawn)

18. (withdrawn)

19. (withdrawn)

20. (withdrawn)

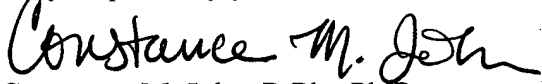
21. (withdrawn)

22. (withdrawn)

23. (withdrawn)

24. (withdrawn)

Very respectfully yours,



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